WINN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

45 Pleasant Street, Woburn

Constructed from 1876 to 1879, this is the first in H. H. Richardson's series of New England libraries. Built of brownstone with sandstone and granite trim, the asymmetrical Romanesque Revival composition is dominated by a tall polygonal tower. A particularly ferocious gargoyle, an eagle with the mouth of a lion, guards the cavernous arched entrance alongside the base of the tower. The stack wing, with its barrel ceiling and arched alcoves, is among the most notable interior spaces.